



TITLE:

THE GENUS PETALIFERA AND A NEW SPECIES, P. RAMOSA, FROM JAPAN

AUTHOR(S):

Baba, Kikutaro

CITATION:

Baba, Kikutaro. THE GENUS PETALIFERA AND A NEW SPECIES, P. RAMOSA, FROM JAPAN.
PUBLICATIONS OF THE SETO MARINE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY 1959, 7(3): 337-338

ISSUE DATE:

1959-12-20

URL:

<http://hdl.handle.net/2433/174633>

RIGHT:

**THE GENUS *PETALIFERA* AND A NEW SPECIES,
P. RAMOSA, FROM JAPAN**

KIKUTARÔ BABA

Biological Laboratory, Osaka Gakugei University

With 1 Text-figure

It appears certain to me that the genus *Petalifera* consists of three definite species as below (cf. ENGEL, 1936, pp. 54-55):

1. *Petalifera petalifera* (RANG, 1828).
Shell broad, quadrangular.
Dist.: Atlantic; Mediterranean.
2. *Petalifera albomaculata* (FARRAN, 1905).
Shell broad, mytiliform.
Dist.: Indian Ocean.
3. *Petalifera punctulata* (TAPPARONE-CANEFRI, 1874). Uminamekuji.
Shell narrow, spatuliform.
Dist.: Japan; Chefoo; Jibuti (?).
Loc.: Sagami Bay; Toba; Kii; Osaka Bay; Inland Sea of Seto; Amakusa;
Asamushi; Nou, Niigata Pref.; Toyama Bay.

The following one is added to the above list.

Petalifera ramosa BABA, n. sp.

Fusa-uminamekuji (n. n.)

This is a well-marked and distinct species. (1) The animals are large, 5-7 cm long, and somewhat plump in appearance. (2) They have an unusually thick papillation on the back. Many of the papillae are small and conical, and in places come together to form compound tubercles. The largest of the papillae are branched many times, and stand out among the smaller ones. (3) The common genital orifice opens within the dorsal slit. (4) The shell is broad and circular in front, and protrudes in a rostrum behind. Coloration of the body roughly as in *P. punctulata*; grass-green to dark brown in different individuals. Sole with pale roundish markings on the green ground. Jaw-plates semicircular, formed of simple elements. Radula

formula $30-32 \times 35-40.1.35-40$. Central tooth shaped as usual; lateral teeth denticulated on both edges (denticles on inner edge, 2-4, and on outer edge, 3-5).

Loc.: Tomioka, Amakusa, in *Zostera* zone (Oct. 1933, 1 sp.; Sept. 1938, 1. sp.; Jan. 1939, 5 sps.). Misaki, Sagami Bay, in *Zostera* zone (Nov. 1953, 1 sp., coll. by Mr. M. HORIKOSHI).

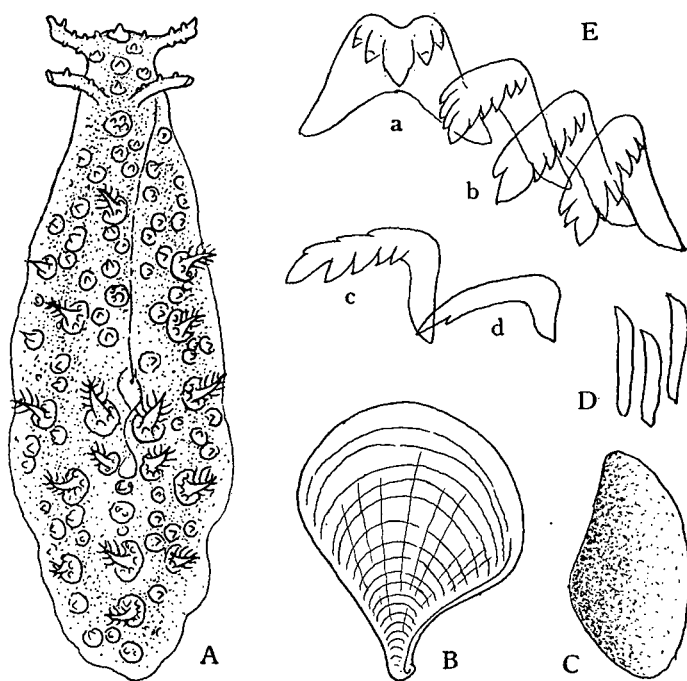


Fig. 1. *Petalifera ramosa*.

A. Entire animal (Amakusa, Jan. 15, 1939, length 5-7 cm); B. Shell ($\times 4$); C. A jaw-plate ($\times 20$); D. Elements of jaw-plate ($\times 240$); E. A half-row of radula ($\times 240$), a. central tooth, b. innermost laterals, c. 20th lateral, d. outermost lateral.

The following is a concise table to distinguish the two species of *Petalifera* occurring in the seas around us.

<i>P. punctulata</i>	<i>P. ramosa</i>
1. Small, 2-4 cm long.	1. Large, 5-7 cm long.
2. Dorsal papillation not thick.	2. Very thick.
3. Genital orifice in front of the dorsal slit.	3. Within the dorsal slit.
4. Shell narrow, spatuliform.	4. Broad, circular in front.

REFERENCE

ENGEL, H. 1936. Ueber westindische Aplysiidae und verwandten anderer Gebiete. *Capita Zoologica*, vol. 8, pt. 1.